

# REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 2579

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that my name be removed as a cosponsor of H.R. 2579.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PETRI). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Washington?

There was no objection.

## LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

(Mr. BONIOR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise for the purpose of inquiring from the distinguished majority leader the schedule for the rest of the day and the week and for the following week.

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. BONIOR. I yield to the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Michigan for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to announce that we have completed legislative business for this week.

The House will next meet on Monday, September 27, at 12:30 p.m. for morning hour and at 2 o'clock p.m. for legislative business. We will consider a number of bills under suspension of the rules, a list of which will be distributed to Members' offices later today.

On Monday, Mr. Speaker, we do not expect recorded votes until 6 o'clock p.m.

Mr. Speaker, next week appropriations conference reports will obviously be our top priority, and as we approach the end of the fiscal year. Conference reports may become available as early as Monday and throughout the week for consideration by the House.

On Tuesday, September 28, and the balance of the next week the House will take up the following measures, all of which will be subject to rules: H.R. 2506, the Health Research and Quality Act; H.R. 2559, the Agricultural Risk Protection Act; H.R. 2436, the Unborn Victims of Violence Act; and H.R. 2910, the National Transportation and Safety Board Amendments Act.

The House is also likely to consider a continuing resolution at some point next week.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to also take the opportunity to remind Members that the annual congressional basketball game is scheduled for this coming Wednesday evening. That basketball game will benefit the country's only college for the deaf. This is a very worthy cause, Mr. Speaker, and I wish all the participants the best of luck.

Mr. Speaker, on Friday, October 1, no votes are expected after 2 o'clock p.m. I wish all my colleagues a safe travel back to their districts.

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague for his comments.

Just a couple of questions, Mr. Speaker. Does the gentleman from Texas expect any late evenings next week?

Mr. ARMEY. If the gentleman will continue to yield, Mr. Speaker, the gentleman is correct in asking. We have a large number of conference reports that we expect in the appropriations cycle. We should expect that we would be late Monday night. We would hope to do as many as two conference reports on Monday night.

With the exception of Wednesday, where we will try to accommodate that charity event, I think we would need to be prepared to work late every night. We will try to keep the Members apprised as conference reports are available.

Mr. BONIOR. I thank my colleague. With only three signable appropriation bills that have been sent to the President, I can understand the gentleman's concern to work the evenings next week.

We appreciate the slot for the Galaudet basketball charity biennial game that is held every year.

Can the gentleman from Texas tell us about the tax extender bill and when that might be expected?

Mr. ARMEY. Again, if the gentleman will yield, I understand that the Committee on Ways and Means has marked up today a tax extender bill. This is a matter of some urgency to a great many Members. It is certainly under consideration. I can only say with some confidence that while it will be considered, it would not be something we would look for next week on the floor.

Mr. BONIOR. How about the minimum wage bill? Does the gentleman have any further news on that?

Mr. ARMEY. Again, let me thank the gentleman for asking.

I might mention, prior to responding to the question, while I collect my thoughts on that part of the question, Mr. Speaker, that we will be trying to do a rule early so we can have same-day consideration for the appropriations conference reports.

There are a great many people working on minimum wage legislation. It is a matter of great interest to a large number of our Members and to constituents across the country. We are receiving reports from these various efforts, the committees of jurisdiction obviously being involved.

While I anticipate some action may occur on that subject during this year, I do not see anything clearly consolidated for presentation to the floor yet at this time.

Mr. BONIOR. But it is the gentleman's desire, or has it been a subject of conversation in the leadership, to try to bring something to the floor this year, is that what the gentleman has just said?

Mr. ARMEY. Again, if the gentleman will yield, the leadership is well aware of the number of Members on both sides of the aisle that are interested in this subject. We are watching their work as it proceeds. They are doing this on a very methodical basis, checking always with the committees of jurisdiction, the committees also exercising their jurisdiction.

We see hearings, for example, in the Committee on Education and the Workforce. I can only say at this point we do not have something that we expect to put on the floor, but we do anticipate that some legislation could be consolidated for consideration prior to our closing this session of Congress.

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, I will have to digest that last answer of the gentleman. Thank my colleague. Could I just ask one other question, because it relates to the scheduling.

We are entering the new fiscal year, as we all know, next week, and the prospects of a session next weekend was not discussed in the majority leader's statement. Are there any comments the gentleman would like to make with respect to that?

Mr. ARMEY. Again, Mr. Speaker, if the gentleman will continue to yield, I appreciate the gentleman's request. This is a matter of concern to a great many Members.

The gentleman from Michigan will notice that I included in my prepared remarks that we would expect votes to be concluded by 2 o'clock on Friday. That is our expectation. Obviously, we place a high priority on conference reports, but it is our anticipation that that urgent business will be completed by that time.

If there is a change, it will be my purpose to notify all Members as quickly as possible, but right now I think the safe presumption for us to make is that we would conclude business by that time.

Mr. BONIOR. I thank my colleague, Mr. Speaker.

## ADJOURNMENT TO MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 1999

Mr. FOLEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 12:30 p.m. on Monday next for morning hour debates.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

There was no objection.

## DISPENSING WITH CALENDAR WEDNESDAY BUSINESS ON WEDNESDAY NEXT

Mr. FOLEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the business in order under the Calendar Wednesday rule be dispensed with on Wednesday next.